

DOCKET NUMBER 2009-46)	OFFICE OF STATE ETHICS
IN THE MATTER OF A)	18-20 TRINITY STREET
COMPLAINT AGAINST)	HARTFORD, CT 06106
GARY KASEY)	FEBRUARY 18, 2010

STIPULATION AND CONSENT ORDER

Pursuant to the Code of Ethics, General Statutes sections 1-79, et seq., Thomas K. Jones, Ethics Enforcement Officer for the Office of State Ethics ("OSE"), issued a Complaint against the respondent Gary Kasey ("Kasey" or "Respondent") for violations of the Code of Ethics, Connecticut General Statutes §1-84(m). Based on the findings of an investigation by the Enforcement Division of the OSE, the Ethics Enforcement Officer believes, and Kasey admits, that the Respondent knowingly provided gifts on two occasions to state employees of the Court Support Services Division of the Office of Juvenile Probation ("CSSD"), a department in the Judicial Division with which the Respondent conducted business with and/or sought to conduct business.

The Parties have entered into this Stipulation and Consent Order following issuance of the Complaint, but without adjudication of any issue of fact or law herein.

I. STIPULATION

The Ethics Enforcement Officer and the Respondent stipulate to the following facts:

- 1. At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent was an educational consultant hired by the Connecticut Department of Children and Families ("DCF").
- 2. At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent did business and/or sought to do business with CSSD.
- 3. At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent was a member of the Golf Club of Avon in Avon, Connecticut ("golf club").
- 4. In or around September of 2007, the Respondent invited a CSSD probation supervisor to play in a member/guest tournament at the golf club. The CSSD employee accepted the Respondent's invitation, and played in the tournament.
- 5. The Respondent paid for the employee's tournament entrance fees and for the employee's use of a golf cart, in an amount that exceeded \$50.00.
- 6. On that same occasion, the Respondent also paid for food and beverage for the CSSD employee in an amount exceeding \$10.00.
- 7. On a separate occasion, in or about August of 2008, the Respondent invited three CSSD employees to play at the golf club. The three CSSD employees accepted the Respondent's invitation and played at the club.
- 8. The Respondent paid for the three CSSD employees to play a round of golf and for the employees' use of golf carts, the cost of which exceeded \$50.00 for each CSSD employee.

- 9. Connecticut General Statutes §1-84(m) states in relevant part that no person shall knowingly give, directly or indirectly, any gift or gifts to a state employee or public official where such person, "(1) [i]s doing business with or seeking to do business with the department or agency in which the public official or state employee is employed..."
- 10. Connecticut General Statutes §1-79(e) defines "Gift" as "anything of value, which is directly and personally received, unless consideration of equal or greater value is given in return."
- 11. By providing the aforementioned gifts to state employees who worked in CSSD, a department or agency with whom the Respondent conducted business and/or sought to conduct business, the Respondent violated Connecticut General Statutes §1-84(m).
- 12. The Respondent admits all facts set forth above and acknowledges that by engaging in such conduct that he violated Connecticut General Statutes §1-84(m).

II. RESPONDENT'S STATEMENT

- 1. The Respondent states that the violations were unintentional and the result of being unaware of the responsibilities of a state contractor under the Code of Ethics for Public Officials.
- 2. The Respondent states that he has fully cooperated with the investigation of the Enforcement Division and states that he will continue to abide by the Code of Ethics in the future.

NOW THEREFORE, the Ethics Enforcement Officer of the Connecticut Office of State Ethics and the Respondent hereby enter into this Stipulation and Consent Order and hereby agree as follows:

III. JURISDICTION

- The Ethics Enforcement Officer is authorized to investigate the Respondent's conduct in providing gifts to state employees, to issue a complaint against Respondent, and to enter into this Stipulation and Consent Order.
- 2. The provisions of this Stipulation and Consent Order apply to and are binding upon the undersigned Parties.
- The Respondent hereby waives all objections and defenses to the jurisdiction of the Ethics Enforcement Officer over matters addressed in this Stipulation and Consent Order.
- 4. The Respondent waives any rights he may have under Conn. Gen. Stat. §§ 1-82, 1-82a, 1-87 and 1-80, including the right to a hearing or appeal in this case, and agrees with the Ethics Enforcement Officer to an informal disposition of this matter as authorized by Conn. Gen. Stat. §4-177(c).
- 5. The Respondent consents to jurisdiction and venue in the Connecticut Superior Court, Judicial District of Hartford, in the event that the State of Connecticut seeks to enforce this Stipulation and Consent Order. The Respondent recognizes that the Connecticut Superior Court has the authority to specifically enforce the provisions of this Stipulation and Consent Order, including the authority to award equitable relief.

IV. REPRESENTATION

The Respondent understands that he has the right to counsel and has expressly waived such right.

V. ORDER

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. §4-177(c), the Office of State Ethics ORDERS as follows:

- 1. Pursuant to General Statutes §1-88(a)(1), the Office of State Ethics orders and the Respondent agrees to cease and desist from any future violation of General Statutes § 1-84(m).
- 2. The Office of State Ethics orders, and the Respondent agrees, to undergo three hours of ethics education by the Office of State Ethics, to be completed by April 2, 2010.
- 3. Pursuant to General Statutes §1-88(a)(3), the Office of State Ethics orders, and the Respondent agrees, that the Respondent pay civil penalties to the State in the amount of nine hundred dollars (\$900.00) for his violations of General Statutes §1-84(m).

This section left blank intentionally.

WHEREFORE, the Ethics Enforcement Officer and the Respondent hereby execute this Stipulation and Consent Order dated February 18, 2010.

Gary Kasey Respondent 6 Billingsgate Ste. 100 Avon, CT 06001

Dated: March 3, 2010,

Thomas K. Jones

(860) 566-4472

Ethics Enforcement Officer, Enforcement Division, State of Connecticut Office of State Ethics 18-20 Trinity Street Hartford, CT 06106